MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MARIA CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 21, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:
Mayor Patino called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT
Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
City Manager Haydon, City Attorney Trujillo, and Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
There were no requests to speak.

RECESS:
Mayor Patino recessed to a Closed Session at 5:31 p.m. for Conference with Legal Counsel – Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 Subdivision (d)(1) regarding 1) Pedro Hernandez, et al. v. Kelsi Sullivan, et al., Case No. 1456951, Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara, Cook Division; and 2) Conference with Real Property Negotiators pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code, Property: Suspended Table A Water (12,214 AF of State Water Project entitlement), Agency Representative: Director of Utilities, Negotiating Parties: City of Santa Maria and State of California Department of Water Resources, Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment.

INVOCATION:
Pastor Greg Burtnett of Grace Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:
Councilmember Orach led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:
Mayor Patino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT
Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
City Manager Haydon, City Attorney Trujillo, Director of Community Development Appel, Deputy City Manager Barnhard, City Librarian Housel, Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kahn, Police Chief Martin, Fire Chief Orr, Director of Recreation and Parks Posada, Director of Utilities Springer, Deputy City Manager Tse, Director of Administrative Services Visé, Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson, Utilities Manager Long, Grants Specialist Narez, and Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT:
Following the Closed Session, the City Attorney reported that there was no reportable action for Item No. 1, and no reportable action for Item No. 2.

1. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

A. LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH
Councilmember Boysen presented a Certificate of Appreciation and plaque to Margaret Cooper in recognition of her service on the Library Board of Trustees, the Library Art Committee, and her help in the Library Shop. City Librarian Housel commented on how well known Ms. Cooper is in the community and thanked her for her time and talents.

B. PROCLAMATION – FAIR HOUSING MONTH
Councilmember Orach presented a Proclamation recognizing the month of April 2015 as "Fair Housing Month." Molora Vadnais, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Foundation, accepted the Proclamation, along with Tanya Villegas and Elizabeth Diaz, and noted the continuing shortage of available housing in the community.

C. PROCLAMATION – ARBOR DAY
Councilmember Zuniga presented a Proclamation recognizing April 25, 2015 as "Arbor Day." Roy Teniente, with the Recreation and Parks Department, accepted the Proclamation.

D. PROCLAMATION – STRAWBERRY WEEK

Councilmember Waterfield presented a Proclamation in recognition of "Strawberry Week" and the annual Strawberry Festival being held April 24-26, 2015. Fidel Sandoval, representing the Los Padres Berry farm, accepted the Proclamation.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Dave Cross, Economic Director of the Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce, spoke about recent activities with the Chamber, including a very successful Vandenberg Outreach Event, a business survey and job fair, tours and forums of various businesses, and sponsorship of the Veterans Academy. He thanked the Council for their confidence and support of Chamber programs.

Mike Cordero, representing the Community Action Commission (CAC), indicated that the CAC was disappointed because their senior food program was not recommended for funding this year under the CDBG allocations. He stated the CAC does not have the funding to provide this assistance in the absence of CDBG funding, and will not be able to feed the 350 seniors who participate in the food program.

Tara Presley, representing Unity in Community, spoke about the group's second annual event scheduled for May 9th focusing on preventing violence, drugs, and gang-related activity. The event will be a walk down Broadway concluding at the Santa Maria Fairpark where various resource vendors will be available to answer questions and promote their services.

Laurance Shinderman, a member of the Mesa Community Group, spoke about his opposition to the Phillips 66 Rail Project saying it would be intrusive, dangerous, and polluting.

Councilmember Boysen asked City Manager Haydon about this project and if the trains would be coming through Santa Maria.

City Manager Haydon responded the rail lines being used would not come through Santa Maria, but rather through Guadalupe and continue south through Lompoc, and that is why the item had not been placed on the agenda. He went on to say that Items are placed on the City Council's agenda for action when that item falls within the jurisdiction of the City limits. For example, Measure P (oil drilling/fracking) was a countywide issue and was not brought before Council as it was not in the City's jurisdiction. Also, Measure M (County road maintenance) was not brought before City Council as it was outside the City's jurisdiction.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Waterfield recused herself from Item 3D (Warrants) due to a conflict of interest.

Consent Calendar Items 3A through 3G (except 3D) were approved on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Orach, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Consent Calendar Item 3D was approved on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Orach, and carried on the following vote: 4-0-1

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember Waterfield

A. ORDINANCES

The reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions was waived. Ordinances on the Consent Calendar were adopted by the same vote cast at the first reading unless City Council indicated otherwise.

B. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of April 7, 2015, were approved as submitted.

C. FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE BOND RELEASE
Public improvements associated with Heritage at Westgate Ranch, Tract 5969, were accepted as complete and the City Council authorized the release of 1) the Faithful Performance Bond for Boundary Walls [#4395046] in the amount of $322,310 posted in the form of a Surety for the construction and installation of boundary walls associated with Phases 1 & 2 of the project; and ordered that 2) the Contractor, Labor and Material Bond in the amount of $161,155 be retained until October 2015.

D. WARRANTS
Warrant Nos. 192511 to 192805 totaling $1,609,850.46 were ordered ratified subject to having been certified as being in conformity with the budget and having been approved for payment by the Director of Administrative Services. Warrant Nos. 188046, 191546, 192197, and 192492 were cancelled.

E. PAYROLL
Payment of payroll was ordered ratified subject to having been certified by the proper Department Heads, as shown on records on file in the Department of Administrative Services and having been approved for payment by the Director of Administrative Services.

F. NO STOPPING ZONE
Resolution No. 2015-30 was adopted establishing no-stopping zones at South Russell Avenue along the westerly right-of-way, beginning forty-eight (48) feet south of the southerly right-of-way of Mariposa Way and extending south for twenty (20) feet; and South Russell Avenue along the westerly right-of-way, beginning ninety-nine (99) feet south of the southerly right-of-way of Mariposa Way and extending south for twenty (20) feet.

Resolution No. 2015-30 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING NO-STOPPING ZONES AT SOUTH RUSSELL AVENUE PURSUANT TO SECTION 7-5.16 OF THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE.

G. AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES AT JIM MAY PARK
Resolution No. 2015-31 was adopted authorizing the Director of Utilities to enter into an Agreement for professional services with Michael K. Nunley Associates, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for a Biofilter at Jim May Park.

Resolution No. 2015-31 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH MICHAEL K. NUNLEY ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR A BIOFILTER AT JIM MAY PARK.

4. WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASES. The City Council was asked to conduct a public hearing to determine if a majority protest exists and, if no majority protest exists, introduce an ordinance instituting annual three percent increases for water and sewer service fees each July 1st for years 2015, 2016, and 2017.

Director of Utilities Springer gave a PowerPoint presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. Since 1981, the City has implemented minimum five percent (5%) annual water and/or sewer rate increases. The increases have been necessary to operate the water and sewer systems, retire bonds, comply with Clean Water Act regulations and Regional Water Quality Control Board discharge requirements, implement capital improvements, and provide for equitable distribution of infrastructure costs. It should be noted that this item does not take into account the operational or financial implications associated with the recently-enacted Executive Order signed by Governor Brown on the Statewide Mandatory Water Conservation Measure. Utilities Springer indicated that a future report will be provided to Council once staff was able to fully assess the implications of the new Order.

More than 101,000 citizens are served annually in Santa Maria, through over 300 miles of water line for an annual demand of approximately 13,000 acre feet of water. With no increase in fees, cash balances would decline to below zero after fiscal year 2016-17. The proposed five percent increase would allow the City to maintain sufficient revenue to operate the City's water and sewer system, pay for costs associated with State water delivery, and maintain water infrastructure.

Notices were mailed to utilities customers advising them of the increase in fees. Public workshops were held to distribute information regarding the increase, and the public hearing notice was also placed in the Santa Maria Times. Written protests were accepted up to the time of the Council

meeting. The number of protests required for the rate increase to be rejected is 10,874. To date, only 2 written protests were received.

Councilmember Waterfield asked about Mr. Springer's comment regarding the need to raise rates by 20 percent in 2016 if the rate increase was not approved this evening, yet staff was only proposing to raise rates 15 percent over the next three years.

Director of Utilities Springer explained that part of the scenario took into account the expense of projects. The increase would be needed over fiscal years 2016-2018.

Written communications.
Chief Deputy City Clerk indicated that there were two written protest communications received in opposition to the water and sewer rate increases.

Protest Public Hearing
Mayor Patino opened the protest hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Mary Ann Scheurich asked if the City used well water along with State water or if the supply was solely State water, and what the increased funding would be used for. She also asked if there would be another increase following the third year of the proposed increase. She asked why the City sells water to Nipomo and what happens to those funds. Ms. Scheurich asked who she should contact to coordinate a project with Serve Santa Maria.

Utilities Director Springer responded the City used a combination of State and well water. He went on to say the rate increase would be to cover the costs of operating the system such as electricity for the pumps, pump replacement and repair, water lines, sewer treatment plant operations and repairs and maintenance. He also stated the funds Nipomo pays to the City of Santa Maria go directly into continuing the water supply to Nipomo.

Mayor Patino responded that an increase after the third year would be up to the Council, but she did anticipate another increase as there has been one every year since 1981. She also explained the City was required to sell water to Nipomo based on a recent lawsuit. Mayor Patino also suggested Ms. Scheurich contact Pastor Carl Nielsen to coordinate a Serve Santa Maria project.

City Manager Haydon invited Ms. Scheurich to speak with a City staff member to learn more about Serve Santa Maria and obtain contact information for the coordinators.

Rande Downer thanked City staff for their input regarding the raise in water rates saying the information was very enlightening. He went on the say he did not support the raise in fees. He stated the rate increases should be more specific to needs and not just a set five percent every time.

At the end of the protest hearing, it was confirmed that no majority protest existed with only two valid written protests.

With no more requests to speak, Mayor Patino closed the public protest hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Council Discussion
Councilmember Boysen indicated that he appreciated Mr. Downer's comments. He stated that many agencies have been hit with increases and the City of Santa Maria, in partnership with the agricultural community, places a high priority on the quality and quantity of the groundwater basin. Many areas of California are constantly reducing the overall quality of their aquafers by not maintaining the highest standards of wastewater recharge to the ground basin. Santa Maria has ensured future generations of a plentiful, quality water supply by blending State water with well water.

Councilmember Orach commented that he was on the Council when State Water was originally implemented and remembers how hard the water was with all the minerals in it and how much damage it did to appliances. He pointed out the improved quality of water and attributed it to the mix of State water with well water. He encouraged people to support the rate increase as the funding is put to good use keeping a high-quality wastewater treatment plant and supply of water for City residents.

Councilmember Waterfield agreed, but stated she still did not support the increased rate. She said she hoped the funds could be made up in other ways than asking for more money from utilities customers.

Ordinance No. 2015-05 relating to five percent (5%) rate increases for water and sewer service fees each July 1st for years 2015, 2016, and 2017 was introduced by title only for first reading and continued to the next meeting for second reading and adoption on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Zuniga, and carried on the following vote: 4-1-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: Councilmember Waterfield
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Ordinance No. 2015-05 introduced. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, RELATING TO FIVE PERCENT (5%) WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASES ANNUALLY EACH JULY 1ST FOR FISCAL YEARS 2015-2016, 2016-2017, AND 2017-2018.

5. 2015-16 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ALLOCATIONS. City Attorney Trujillo shared a few words regarding conflicts of interest. He indicated that if a financial conflict of interest exists, the FPPC requires a Councilmember to step down, state on the record what the conflict is, and to leave the room. Several Council Members serve on the Board of Directors for a number of grant recipients. It has been the Council's past practice to recuse themselves in order to avoid the appearance of a conflict, even if no financial conflict of interest exists. He indicated that if the Council followed that past practice, the Council would lose a quorum. He recommended that if applicable, each Councilmember make the following disclosures: 1) Identify the organization they were affiliated with; 2) Indicate for the record that they serve on such an organization, that their decision would not be influenced, and that they could remain impartial; and 3) Confirm they did not have a financial conflict of interest and were participating only to provide a quorum so the Council could act on the matter.

Mayor Patino indicated that she currently serves as a non-paid Board Member for Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley and is an honorary member of the Board for the Historical Museum, but that her service with those Boards would not influence her decision this evening, that she could remain impartial and unbiased, that she did not have a financial conflict of interest, and that she was participating in order to establish a quorum to allow the Council to act on the item.

Councilmember Zuniga stated she serves as a non-paid Board Member for Good Samaritan, Santa Maria Valley Youth Services, the Community Action Commission, and is affiliated with the Santa Barbara County Sexual Assault Response Team. She stated her service with the organizations would not influence her decision, she would remain impartial and unbiased, she did not have a financial conflict of interest, and she was serving to establish a quorum to allow the Council to act on the item.

Councilmember Waterfield stated she served as a non-paid, advisory committee member with the Salvation Army. She stated her service with the organization would not influence her decision, she would remain impartial and unbiased, she did not have a financial conflict of interest, and she was serving to establish a quorum to allow the Council to act on the item.

Councilmember Boysen announced he is a paid employee of the Good Samaritan Shelter as Chief Financial Officer, and has a financial conflict of interest. He said he would participate in the HOME Program item only and would not participate in the Capital Development and Public Service Allocations portion of the meeting.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson indicated that public comment and Council discussion will be done by each category of funding starting with the HOME projects first, then the CDBG Capital projects, and lastly the CDBG Public Service programs. She displayed the summaries of the recommendations for each portion of money as they were reviewed.

Grants Specialist Narez was available for Spanish translation if needed; however, there were no requests for translation during the presentation of this item.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson introduced members of the Block Grants Advisory Committee (BGAC) and invited Committee Chair, Rosalie Marquez, to say a few words. Ms. Marquez thanked City staff for their help and stated the funding requests this year had been very competitive and that some of the organizations that usually received funding were not chosen this time. The Committee's impartial, unbiased decisions regarding which organizations to fund were based on the recent Needs Assessment Survey administered by the Special Projects Division.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report regarding the Block Grants Advisory Committee's (BGAC) recommendation for the allocation of Fiscal Year 2015-16 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds.

The CDBG Program is the primary Federal program providing state and local governments with grant funds for local programs and projects to address a variety of complex physical, economic, and social needs. The main objective of the program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds may be used at the discretion of the City as long as the City's activities comply with Federal regulations and meet one of the three national objectives, which are: 1) to be a primary benefit to low and moderate income persons; 2) to prevent or eliminate slums/blight; and/or 3) to meet an urgent community-wide need, such as an event caused by a major catastrophic event.

The City of Santa Maria has participated in CDBG since 1975 and receives funding annually based on a HUD formula that includes factors like population growth, level of poverty, age of housing, and extent of overcrowding. Staff was informed that the City of Santa Maria would receive an estimated allocation of $1,329,004. Twenty percent (approximately $265,800) would be available for General Administration, 15 percent (approximately $199,350) would be available for Public Services, and the remaining 65 percent (approximately $863,854) would be available for Capital Projects. The County estimates that the City's HOME funds allocation will be approximately $199,107.

In the Fall of 2014, a Needs Assessment Survey was conducted and approximately 600 responses were received. The Committee received direction from Council to move some of the funding into City building upkeep, maintain the quality of programs and projects that serve at-risk youth, and provide more funding to youth activities. A Notice of Funding Availability was posted in October of 2014 and applications were due December 19, 2014. Staff received 31 applications for public services totaling $425,023; 16 applications were for capital development totaling $1,770,997, and one application was received for affordable housing totaling $199,107.

HOME
Staff recommended, and the BGAC approved, the entire allocation of $199,107 in HOME funds for 2015-16 be used for Peoples' Self-Help Housing/Senior Affordable Apartments. The project will provide 40 apartments for seniors and no additional funding is currently needed for the City's Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program. Ms. Coelho-Hudson stated the TBRA Program is sufficiently funded for the next two years. The TBRA program has been very successful in providing security deposit assistance to extremely low and very low-income households.

Mayor Patino announced that the Council would take public testimony and consider each of the three program areas separately.

Public Input regarding HOME Funds
Mayor Patino opened the public hearing regarding HOME Funds at 7:50 p.m.

Morgan Benevedo, representing Peoples' Self-Help Housing (PSHH), thanked City staff and the Committee for their support. He offered to answer any questions.

Councilmember Boysen pointed out that PSHH would be able to leverage the funds many times to provide low-income, senior housing.

Mr. Benevedo stated HOME funds was one of the mainstay programs for affordable housing with a 20 to 30 percent ratio of public investment and the balance from private investment.

Hearing no other requests to speak regarding HOME Funds, Mayor Patino closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m.

Council discussion regarding HOME Funds
There was no discussion by the City Council.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program Allocation
Resolution No. 2015-32 was adopted approving the following allocation for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program for fiscal year 2015-16:

Peoples' Self-Help Housing/Senior Affordable Apartments	$199,107

on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Zuniga, and carried on the following 5-0 vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Resolution No. 2015-32 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ACTIVITIES AND ALLOCATIONS UNDER THE HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND ANY DESIGNEE(S) TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA FOR APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS.

Councilmember Boysen excused himself and left the Chambers at 7:53 p.m.

CAPITAL
Staff and Committee members recommended $52,500 be allocated to the Boys & Girls Club Kitchen Renovation. $90,000 was recommended for the City of Santa Maria Code Compliance Public Alley Improvement Program. $133,084 was recommended for the Minami Parking Lot Rehabilitation project. $50,000 was recommended for the Commercial Façade Program. $82,953 was recommended for the Community Action Partnership of SLO County, Inc.'s Minor Home Repair Program. $84,910 was recommended for Good Samaritan Shelter, Inc. Family Transitional Shelter. $203,776 was recommended for Life Steps Foundation Wisdom Center. $151,631 was recommended for Peoples' Self-Help Housing Senior Affordable Apartments and acquisition of the property. And, $15,000 was recommended for the TBRA Administration.

Written Communications
There were no written communications.

Public Input regarding Capital Development Activities
Mayor Patino opened the public hearing regarding Capital Development Activities at 8:15 p.m.

Linda Cordero spoke on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of the Santa Maria Valley and thanked the BGAC for supporting the renovation of the kitchen in their facility. She also encouraged doing CDBG projects with local contractors when possible, but expressed concern with the fact that fewer bids would be received which might increase competition and raise the costs in the end.

Hearing no other requests to speak on Capital Development Activities, Mayor Patino closed the public hearing at 8:16 p.m.

Council discussion regarding Capital Development Activities
Councilmember Orach commented that he was a little disappointed that the Code Compliance Weekend Program was not funded to help address the homeless issues. He cited an incident where an acquaintance of his called for help over the weekend with a homeless person sleeping in their backyard and did not receive assistance until the following Monday. He requested that City Manager Haydon look into a way to help fund this area.

City Manager Haydon responded that staff would formulate the upcoming budget and mid-cycle budget review taking this information into consideration. He also clarified that **Park** Rangers had the new title of **City** Rangers as they cover a much broader range of responsibilities than they did previously.

Mayor Patino asked if the lowest bid was always used when projects for non-profits are funded, as is the procedure for the City when awarding bids for City projects. She also stated she supported Councilmember Orach's request for support with Code Enforcement over the weekends.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson responded that non-profits are required to obtain three bids prior to receiving funding. They must then choose the most reasonable bid and get approval from City staff and the BGAC prior to awarding a bid. In future applications, there will be a requirement to submit at least three bids, non-profits may be required to award to the lowest bidder, and may also be required to work only with local contractors.

Councilmember Waterfield asked about Council requests regarding the CDBG process and how were they handled. She also asked if there was an option to move the funds from one allocation to another before taking the vote this evening. For example, moving $30,000 from one area into weekend code enforcement.

City Manager Haydon responded that Council always has the ability to change the allocations, but he stated staff would recommend going forward with the resolutions as presented to avoid a domino effect, whereby each Councilmember requests a change, shifting allocations in more than the one area being discussed. He emphasized that the BGAC had done extensive work determining recipients of CDBG and HOME funding, including site visits, and their decisions were based on extensive research. Mr. Haydon stated that, should Council like to explore other ways of funding projects, staff is always amenable to doing so.

Mayor Patino recommended adding an agenda item to a future meeting that would highlight the requirements to the CDBG process for the City Council.

Councilmember Orach recommended holding a future joint City Council meeting with the Block Grants Advisory Committee.

Capital Development Activities
Resolution No. 2015-33 was adopted approving the following revised Capital Development allocations under the CDBG Program for fiscal year 2015-16:

HOUSING – RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION	
Community Action Partnership of SLO County, Inc. (CAPSLO, Inc.)	$82,953
NON-PROFIT FACILITIES PROGRAM	
Boys and Girls Club/Kitchen Renovation	$52,500
Good Samaritan Shelter, Inc./Family Transitional Shelter	$84,910
Life Steps Foundation Wisdom Center	$203,776
Peoples' Self-Help Housing	$151,631
PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS	
City of Santa Maria Commercial Façade Program	$50,000
City of Santa Maria Public Alley Improvements	$90,000
City of Santa Maria Minami Parking Lot Rehab	$133,084
TBRA Administration	$15,000
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	$265,800

on motion by Councilmember Orach, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield, and carried on the following 4-0-1 vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: Councilmember Boysen
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution No. 2015-33 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND ALLOCATIONS UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2015-16 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND ANY DESIGNEE(S) TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA FOR APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS.

PUBLIC SERVICES
For this category, of the 31 applications received, the Committee recommended allocations to 20. All of the recommended allocations fell under the priority of food, shelter, clothing, homelessness, critical needs, necessities of life, and crime victims with the exception of the Fighting Back and Peoples' Self-Help Housing Summer Enrichment program that fell under the umbrella of youth development.

Mayor Patino asked about the applications and the section where applicants are asked how many employees the organization has. Many of the applicants had not completed this section and she stated she believed an incomplete application should be disqualified.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson replied that the section is new on the applications and staff will follow-up more closely for that information with the next application process. She went on to say that much of the financial information is collected in other parts of the application process along with their Form 990.

Councilmember Zuniga commented she was concerned about giving the Committee information, such as Executive Director salaries, stating that those salaries are based on the size of the organization, the number of programs, etc., and probably would not help them in their decision-making regarding the grants. She also asked for clarification that the City department were applying for funding in exactly the same way local agencies apply.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson responded that each City department applies independently of the other City departments, and the same is true of non-profits. The departments were requested to complete all the same information that other applicants are requested to complete. The difficulty for the BGAC members was comparing applicants as each of them is so unique.

Mayor Patino reminded everyone that youth in Santa Maria comprise about 29 percent of the total population and the elderly population is ever-increasing. She hoped the Council and BGAC would keep this in mind during their decision-making.

Councilmember Orach indicated that he would like to see more local representation on Boards and Committees.

Community Programs Manager Coelho-Hudson responded the BGAC agreed.

Councilmember Waterfield stated she has applied for a grant as an employee of a non-profit, and is sympathetic to all the issues being discussed.

Public Input regarding Public Services
Mayor Patino opened the public hearing regarding Public Services at 8:30 p.m.

David Coelho, representing Catholic Charities commented, thanked the BGAC and City staff for their hard work on the CDBG process stating the program is definitely beneficial to the population in Santa Maria. He encouraged those in need to call Catholic Charities for help with rental assistance and childcare as they currently have a reserve in FEMA funds to share.

Judith Monte, representing the Food Bank, thanked the BGAC and City Council for their support. She cited the drought as impacting the Food Bank this year. It has meant the organization has had to purchase more food and donations in food have decreased.

Britt Stanley, representing the Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse (CADA), thanked everyone for their hard work. He highlighted statistics for CADA's teen program and said he was encouraged by the success of the organization's clients. He shared wristbands with everyone to show support of a drug-free lifestyle for teens.

Sandy Delos, representing Domestic Violence Solutions (DVS), thanked everyone for their support and said the grant would be put to very good use. She stated DVS was proud to be part of the City of Santa Maria.

Sarah Rudd, representing Family Service Agency/Big Brothers Big Sisters, thanked everyone for their hard work on the CDBG grants citing the success of a family who was impacted by the grants.

Jenny Morales, representing the Independent Living Resource Center, thanked everyone for their work on the CDBG grants and stressed that her organization is the only one that offers help to the deaf and hearing impaired.

Linda Cordero, representing North County Rape Crisis Center, thanked the City Council and the BGAC for their hard work and said the organization appreciates being considered each year.

Fran Forman, representing CAC, indicated that she was disappointed that CAC did not receive funding for the Senior Food Program. She indicated that it will be a hardship this year for CAC.

Karen Dominguez, Jane Hood, Jose Aguilera, Debbie Johnson, and Bill Pike, representing CAC, also stated they were disappointed the CAC did not receive funding this year and appealed to the City Council to reconsider CAC for funding next year.

Hearing no further requests to speak regarding Public Services, Mayor Patino closed the public hearing at 9:02 p.m.

Council discussion regarding Public Services
Councilmember Zuniga indicated that she was touched by the testimony and understood the need for the CAC Senior Program.

Councilmember Orach reminded everyone that not all organizations can be served by the Community Development Block Grants and stated it is emotionally difficult for Committee members to decide who becomes a recipient.

Councilmember Waterfield agreed.

Mayor Patino thanked the Committee members for their efforts with the CDBG decisions and in the community.

Public Service Activities
Resolution No. 2015-34 was adopted approving the following revised Public Service allocations under the CDBG Program for Fiscal Year 2015-16:

Alliance for Pharmaceutical Access	$ 5,000
Catholic Charities	$ 19,144
Community Partners in Caring	$ 7,500
Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – Teen Court	$ 7,500
Domestic Violence Solutions / Emergency Shelter	$ 7,500
Family Service Agency/Big Brothers Big Sisters	$ 5,000
Fighting Back Santa Maria/Foundation for Success	$ 14,706
Foodbank of Santa Barbara County / Warehouse Program	$ 19,000
Good Samaritan Shelter, Inc. / Emergency Shelter Services	$ 14,000
Independent Living Resource Center / Deaf Outreach	$ 12,000
Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County	$ 10,000
North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center	$ 14,000
Pacific Pride Foundation / Necessities of Life Food Pantry	$ 10,000
People's Self-Help Housing Youth Education Enhancement Program	$ 5,000
Santa Barbara County Sexual Assault Response Team	$ 6,000
Santa Maria Organization of Transportation Helpers (SMOOTH)	$ 6,000
Santa Maria Valley FISH Meals On Wheels	$ 10,000
Santa Maria Valley Youth and Family Center	$ 10,000
The Salvation Army/Hot Lunch Program	$ 10,000
Transitions Mental Health Association	$ 7,000

on motion by Councilmember Orach, seconded by Councilmember Zuniga, and carried on the following 4-0-1 vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: Councilmember Boysen
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution No. 2015-34 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES AND ALLOCATIONS UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2015-16 AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND ANY DESIGNEE(S) TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA FOR APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS.

Councilmember Boysen returned to the Chambers dais at 9:08 p.m.

5. 2015 WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kahn gave a presentation as detailed in the written Council Agenda Report. Each year the Public Works Department administers the Weed Abatement Program removing weeds, rubbish, and other undesirable materials from public spaces. The program reduces health hazards to the public by aiding in fire prevention and pest reduction and helping with upkeep of lots lacking regular maintenance. On March 17, 2015, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2015-23 declaring that public and unimproved private lots described in Exhibit A of the resolution constituted a public nuisance and set April 21, 2015, as the date Council would hear comments or objections regarding the requirements to destroy weeds and remove rubbish, refuse, and dirt from said properties.

The 2015 City Weed Abatement Program began with Streets and Facilities staff mailing abatement letters to the owners of 253 properties listed on Resolution No. 2015-23. The letter advised owners they had the option to sign and return the letter to the Streets & Maintenance Supervisor as an indication of their intention to accomplish abatement on their own. Their signature would indicate they would continually abate said nuisances in the case of recurrence. Owners of undeveloped lots who could not be reached by mail had their lots posted. Posting was performed within two (2) working days of receiving the returned abatement letter back from the US Postal Service. Staff posts developed lots only at the request of the City of Santa Maria Code Compliance Office or the Fire Department.

Property owners who do not choose to perform their own abatement on their property subject their property to abatement by City contractor and will be charged for the service. Actual City abatement cost, plus an assessment for program administration, will be added to their property tax bill. Reimbursements are collected by the County of Santa Barbara and remitted to the City of Santa Maria.

Public Input
Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz indicated that no written communications were received.

Mayor Patino opened the Public Hearing at 9:11 p.m., and hearing no requests to speak immediately closed the Public Hearing.

Council discussion
There was no discussion by the City Council.

Resolution No. 2015-35 was adopted overruling objections to the abatement and directing the abatement of the nuisances on motion by Councilmember Boysen, and seconded by Councilmember Orach, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution No. 2015-35 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, OVERRULING OBJECTIONS TO THE ABATEMENT OF WEEDS, RUBBISH, REFUSE, AND DIRT PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 8 OF THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE.

REPORT BY CITY MANAGER:
City Manager Haydon announced the next City Council meeting would be in two weeks on May 5, 2015. He stated items for the meeting would include several proclamations, including "Go Western Days." He reminded staff to wear their western wear. Other items would include the Los Alamos Library Lease; an agreement with Santa Barbara County for the operation of the TBRA Program; the second reading of the Ordinance regarding the increase in water rates; and the 3rd Quarter Financial Report. He also stated that, per the Council's request, a special joint meeting regarding Block Grant Advisory Committee and City Council meeting would be added to the calendar for a future meeting.

ORAL REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND OFFICERS (INCLUDING AB1234 REPORTS):
Councilmember Zuniga reported that she spoke on the Ben Heighes radio show and participated in the Serve Santa Maria event. She encouraged everyone to participate in the Recreation and Parks Tree of Life Program.

Councilmember Waterfield reported that she attended the Strawberry Recognition Dinner, met with constituents regarding water and sewer rates, attended the Veterans' Treatment Court and a Veterans' Memorial Dedication event, attended the Chamber of Commerce Transportation Meeting, and attended Hancock Terrace's Groundbreaking and Preview.

Councilmember Orach indicated that he had nothing to report.

Councilmember Boysen reported that he attended a CCWA subcommittee meeting and an Investment Oversight Committee meeting. He also mentioned a recent Board of Supervisors hearing regarding a potential cut in funding to the City of Santa Maria and said he may be bringing the issue to Council in the near future. He went on to speak about a potential Landlord Liaison Program in Santa Barbara County that would provide a 24/7 hotline for landlords and reassurance of financial coverage for damages by tenants.

Mayor Patino reported that she attended the Santa Maria Teens Speak Out with the Community Action Commission; the monthly meeting of Santa Maria Valley Beautiful; the Strawberry Recognition Dinner; recorded a PSA for water conservation; interviewed with KSBY; attended the 2015 Women of Recognition Celebration and the Santa Maria Veterans' Treatment Court graduation; spoke at a Model A Ford Chapter meeting; participated in the Serve Santa Maria event; attended the Masonic Temple Award Ceremony; presented a Proclamation at the Elks Club Queen Kickoff and Auction for Rodeo Days; attended the Chamber of Commerce Transportation Meeting and the Hancock Groundbreaking and Preview; met with the owners of Windset Farms; attended the second annual Day of Hope, the SBCAG monthly Board meeting, the Mass for the 50th Anniversary Celebration with St. Joseph's High School, the special meeting of the APCD, the quarterly meeting of Mayors and Managers, the regional athletics competition with the Special Olympics at Pioneer High, the Kite Festival; and spoke on the Ben Heighes radio show.

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Patino declared the City Council meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

APPROVED:

May 5, 2015
Date

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk of the City of Santa Maria and ex officio Clerk of the City Council

ATTEST:

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Alice M. Patino
Mayor of the City of Santa Maria